

**Wisconsin Badger State Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
Annual Meeting / Board Meeting  
March 19th, 2026 at 10:00 AM  
MINUTES – Approved**

**Call to Order:** 10:03 AM

**Roll Call & Introductions**

BOD: Julie Ketchum, Logan Dwyer, Allison Birr, Abby Sauer, Lee Daigle, Ben Hintz, John Welch

BOD Not Present: John Peralta, Jon Schroeder, Alan Kerr, Ali Rathsack

Also Present: Michelle Nieuwenhuis (RC), Sarah Murray, BreAnne Kahnk, Joshua Allen, Rob Michitsch

**Minutes of Previous Meetings** [February 2026](#)

Julie moves to approve August Minutes.

John Welch– Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

**Treasurer’s Report** *Abby*

Checking \$8,815.80

Savings \$10,970.63

Abby reported about some transactions this past month.

Ben motions to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

John Welch – Seconded

Approved – Motion carries

**Committee Reports**

**DNR Report** - *Jennifer*

Staffing:

- New hydrogeologist starting with landfill team in Milwaukee in June (Sally Klein, currently LTE with DNR’s Drinking and Groundwater Program)
- Interviewing for additional licensing, reporting and compliance specialist
- Hiring LTE to focus on organics management under EPA SWIFR grant
- If PFAS bill signed by governor, will be hiring an advanced hydrogeologist in our program to focus on emerging contaminants
- Bob Germer (non-landfill solid waste and recycling specialist in Spooner) retiring in early April

Rules:

- Finishing drafting non-landfill solid waste rule; first public comment period in late spring/early summer
- Comment period closed on e-cycle rule economic impact assessment; next comment period and public hearing in May

Legislation:

- PFAS and battery bills passed Legislature unanimously; preparing for quick hiring and implementation if signed by governor as expected

- AB605 on allowing municipal landfills to retain landfill environmental repair fees to cover a Clean Water Fund load for wastewater infrastructure updates has not been sent to the governor yet.

Other:

- Wrapping up many annual reports; MRF due 3/30, RU will be out this week and due 4/30;
- Landfill annual operations report due April 30

### **Safety Ambassador Report** *Abby*

- Discussed the winter storm earlier this week and how sites were handling it.
- SWANA National has a draft form of the Backing Best Management Practice Guide draft which is being reviewed by committee.
- Committee reviewed Safety Survey from WIRMC.
  - PPE protocols were most common protocols by participants. Needlestick guides are most needed.
- Committee continues to work on Safety Award.
  - The topic selected was onsite driver incident prevention programs.
  - Timeline of selection is unclear.
    - By next meeting, BOD needs a fleshed out plan of what this program is, what the ranking is, and the timeline associated with it.

### **Membership / Social Media Report** *Allison*

- Total membership numbers as of the 3/5/2026: 135 members.
  - 29 students, 40 private sector, 51 public sector, and 15 small business.
  - Outreach for the 5 expiring members was completed on the 5<sup>th</sup> as well.
- Allison shares SM&M Committee is working on an outreach plan to improve the declining public sector membership numbers.
- If any board members have pictures from events, please share with SM&M.

### **International** *Julie*

- Group met 2 weeks ago and continued the panel presentations from RCon.
  - Priorities for SWANA were narrowed down to 4 topics: YP, safety, partnerships with other organizations, and inter-chapter collaboration.
- Budget is doing well compared to expenses, but we are still lagging in membership.
  - There is a new membership director who has a great detailed plan which is started to be implemented.
- More staff is being hired to hopefully help with the interaction between leaders and chapters.

### **YP Report** *Logan/Abby*

- Committee discussed feedback from welcome night from WIRMC.
  - Considering modifying the time of the event.
- Highway Cleanup will be April 25<sup>th</sup>. Currently 7 people have signed up to attend.
- Discussed potential tour opportunities.
  - Looking to tour the Outagamie County Landfill & MRF this year.
  - Also looking into touring Pelliterri Waste Systems, Liberty Tire Recycling, and Veolia.
    - Veolia gauged the most interest and a potential tour is being planned for summer or near the end of the year.

**Advocacy Report** *Julie*

- Battery bill passed unanimously, both House and Senate; expected to be signed by governor mid-April.
  - Battery bills are being worked on in Iowa and Minnesota.
  - Wisconsin is the 11<sup>th</sup> state to have passed this bill.
- PFAS bill exempts public and private landfills, TS, (not MRFs or compost facilities) from PFAS liability under the WI Spills Law only, not from Federal laws. WM & GFL worked with the authors and were able to get bill modified so landfills don't automatically have to have the pre-treatment.
  - Group discusses.

**Scholarship Report** *John Welch*

- All scholarship rewarded. SWANA National rolled out their scholarship program.

**By Laws Update** *John Welch*

- John has begun compiling a list of potential changes and will be setting up a meeting with the group within the next month or so.

**Training committee** *Lee*

- Looking to get a meeting set up within the next few weeks. There is interest to work with the WIRMC group as well as the safety committee.

**Timeline Review**

Wisconsin Non-Stock Corp Annual Report Form	March	Treasurer
Tax Form 990	March	Treasurer
Check Balance to Make Sure It's Not Under \$5,000	March	Treasurer
Review Bank Statement	March	Treasurer
Review Goals	March	Board
Website Updates	March	Website Chair
Place Conference on National Site	April	Admin
Check Balance to Make Sure It's Not Under \$5,000	April	Treasurer
Review Bank Statement	April	Treasurer

**Unfinished – New Business**

- **RCon Attendee List**
  - Group discusses which board members are interested in attending WIRMC.
    - Abby motions that Abby, Allison, Logan, and Alan each receive \$1,100 to attend RCon.
      - Allison seconds.
        - i. Approved – Motion passes.

Next Board Meeting – April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2026 at 10:00 AM

Motion to adjourn by Julie

Seconded by John Welch  
Approved

Adjourn – 10:54 AM

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Minutes recorded by Michelle Nieuwenhuis, SWANA BC Administrative Assistant